

Company Registration Number: 08515877 (England & Wales)

**EXETER MATHEMATICS SCHOOL
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**ANNUAL REPORT AND FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

**EXETER MATHEMATICS SCHOOL
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

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**EXETER MATHEMATICS SCHOOL
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REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Members	University of Exeter Exeter College J Kay J Laramy T Paulden
Trustees	K Burnham, Head Teacher ^{1,2,4} T Paulden, Chair of Trustees ^{2,4,5} N Harvey, Vice Chair of Trustees ^{1,4,5} P Vukisic ² C Durston ^{1,3} G Marasingha (appointed 20 September 2023) ² J Hamilton ² K Evans ² F Thomas ² J Child (appointed 1 September 2022) ¹ L Day (appointed 1 September 2022) ² J Dowell (appointed 30 August 2023) ¹ D Tarbet (appointed 17 October 2023) ¹ L Penny (appointed 25 August 2023) ² G Noble (appointed 31 May 2023) ^{1,3} S Mariadas (resigned 28 August 2023) T Fujita (resigned 19 September 2023) A Bartin (resigned 28 August 2023) R Church (resigned 28 August 2023) S Basker (resigned 28 August 2023)
	¹ Resources Committee ² Curriculum and Student Experience Committee ³ Remuneration Committee ⁴ Governance Committee ⁵ Appeals Committee
Company registered number	08515877
Company name	Exeter Mathematics School
Principal and registered office	Rougemont House Castle Street Exeter Devon EX4 3PU

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**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

Chief executive officer K Burnham

Senior leadership team

K Burnham, Head Teacher
J Rowing, Deputy Head Teacher
L Cattle, Assistant Head Teacher
H Cummins, School Business Manager
Y Trevelyan, Pastoral and Safeguarding Lead

Independent auditors

Bishop Fleming LLP
Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditors
2nd Floor Stratus House
Emperor Way
Exeter Business Park
Exeter
EX1 3QS

Bankers

Lloyds Bank
234 High Street
Exeter
Devon
EX4 3NL

**EXETER MATHEMATICS SCHOOL
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**TRUSTEES' REPORT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

TRUSTEES' REPORT

The Trustees present their annual report together with the financial statements and auditor's report of the Charitable Company for the year ending 31 August 2023. The annual report serves the purpose of both a Trustees' report and a Directors' report under company law.

The Trust operates an academy for students aged 16 to 19 in Cornwall, Devon, Dorset and Somerset. It has a student capacity of 128 and had a roll of 128 in the school census in October 2022.

STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT

Constitution

The Academy Trust is a company limited by guarantee and an exempt charity. The Charitable Company's Memorandum and Articles of Association are the primary governing documents of the Academy Trust. The Trustees of Exeter Mathematics School are also the directors of the Charitable Company for the purposes of company law. The Charitable Company operates as Exeter Mathematics School.

Details of the Trustees who served throughout the year, and to the date the accounts are approved, are included in the Reference and Administration Details.

Trustees' Liability

Each Trustee of the Charitable Company undertakes to contribute to the assets of the Company in the event of it being wound up while he/she is a Trustee, or within one year after he/she ceases to be a Trustee, such amount as may be required, not exceeding £10, for the debts and liabilities contracted before they cease to be a Trustee.

Trustees' Indemnities

Trustees' benefit from indemnity insurance purchased at the Academy's expense to cover the liability of the Trustees which by virtue of any rule of law would otherwise attach to them in respect of any negligence, default or breach of trust or breach of duty of which they may be guilty in relation to the Academy, provided that any such insurance shall not extend to any claim arising from any act or omission which the Trustees knew to be a breach of trust or breach of duty or which was committed by the Trustees in reckless disregard to whether it was a breach of trust or breach of duty or not and provided also that any such insurance shall not extend to the costs of any unsuccessful defence to a criminal prosecution brought against the Trustees in their capacity as Directors of the Academy. The limit of this indemnity is £10,000,000.

Method of recruitment and appointment or election of Trustees

The Academy Trust shall have the following Trustees as set out in its Articles of Association and funding agreement:

- up to 10 Trustees who are appointed – five by the University of Exeter and five by Exeter College
- a minimum of two Parent Trustees
- one staff Trustee
- the Headteacher who is treated for all purposes as being an ex officio Trustee
- the Articles of Association permit the Academy to co-opt Trustees

Trustees are appointed for a four year period, except that this time limit does not apply to the Headteacher or to parent trustees. Parent trustees are appointed for two years or for the duration of their child's enrolment at Exeter Mathematics School, whichever is shorter. Subject to remaining eligible to be a particular type of Trustee, any Trustee can be re-appointed or re-elected.

The Board undertakes an annual skills audit to evaluate the breadth and depth of a range of skills across the Board. This is reviewed by the Governance Committee to ensure that the Board has the necessary skills to contribute fully to the School's development and identify whether there are any skills gaps that either need filling through Trustee recruitment or through Trustee training. Trustee recruitment can then be specifically targeted to fill skills gaps.

**TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

The Skills Audit also helps to identify which Trustees will most effectively act as link Trustees for each area of the School.

Policies and Procedures adopted for the Induction and Training of Trustees

The training and induction provided for new Trustees will depend upon their existing experience but would normally include a tour of the School and an opportunity to meet staff and students. As there are normally only two or three new Trustees a year, induction tends to be done informally and is tailored specifically to the individual. The Clerk to the Trustees follows an induction checklist to ensure that new trustees have all the necessary information and support needed to fulfil their role with confidence.

Trustees that have no prior school governance experience will receive specific training for new trustees.

All Trustees are provided with copies or have access to all policies, procedures, minutes, accounts, budgets, plans and other documents that they will need to undertake their role as Trustees. There is also an online resource for governors (The Governors Portal) which gives all Trustees key information about the School, the Board, including policies, minutes and all papers for meetings. National documents that are useful for Trustees are also available on the portal, eg the Academies Handbook.

Organisational Structure

The Board of Trustees has four scheduled meetings per year. The Board establishes an overall framework for the governance of the Academy and determines membership, terms of reference and procedures of committees and other groups. It receives reports including policies from its committees for review and ratification. It monitors the activities of the committees through the minutes of their meetings. The Board may from time to time establish working groups to perform specific tasks over a limited timescale. Link Trustees are assigned key aspects of the School's function to scrutinise. Their findings are shared at the relevant committees to ensure trustees have an accurate understanding of current practice.

There are 5 committees as follows;

Resources (and Audit) Committee - this meets four times a year and is responsible for monitoring, evaluating and reviewing policy and performance in relation to financial management, compliance with reporting and regulatory requirements, receiving reports from the Responsible Officer and drafting the annual budget including setting staffing levels. It also incorporates the role of an audit committee, scrutinising internal and external audit reports.

Remuneration Committee – this meets two times a year to review and monitor the implementation of policies relating to performance management and pay, to review salary scales and to make recommendations regarding the Headteacher's pay.

Curriculum and Student Experience Committee - this meets four times a year to monitor, evaluate and review academy policy, practice and performance in relation to curriculum planning, communications, target setting and assessment, examinations and all pastoral issues.

Appeals Committee - this meets as necessary to deal with all matters relating to admissions appeals.

Governance Committee – this meets twice a year and advises the Board on all matters relating to governance including the skills required of and the training to be undertaken by trustees, succession planning and any other matters which the Board remits to it.

The following decisions are reserved to the Board of Trustees: to consider any proposals for changes to the status or constitution of the Academy and its committee structure, to appoint or remove the Chair and/or Vice Chair, to appoint the Headteacher and Clerk to the Trustees, to approve the budget and all other matters required by law to be taken by it.

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**TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

The Trustees and Board of Trustees have devolved responsibility for day-to-day management of the Academy to the Headteacher and Senior Leadership Team (SLT). The SLT comprises the Headteacher, Deputy Headteacher, Business Manager, Assistant Headteacher and Pastoral Leader.

The Headteacher is the Accounting Officer.

Arrangements for setting pay and remuneration of key management personnel

The Remuneration Committee oversees the pay and remuneration of the Senior Leadership Team. Other pay and remuneration decisions are delegated to the Headteacher. All Trustees give their time freely and no Trustee received remuneration in the year in respect of their role as a Trustee.

Details of Trustees' expenses and related party transactions are disclosed in the notes to the financial statements.

The Headteacher is appraised by the Chair and Vice Chair of Trustees and is set targets that reflect the school's priorities as laid out in the School Development Plan. Key performance indicators are used to measure success.

The Headteacher's salary scale is set by the Remuneration Committee, with due regard to the size and nature of the School. Progression within that scale is based on performance, and decisions relating to progression are made by the Remuneration Committee with due regard for the recommendations made by the Headteacher's appraisers.

The Assistant Headteacher, Business Manager, Pastoral Lead and Deputy Headteacher, are line-managed by the Headteacher in accordance with the School's Performance Management Policy. Their remuneration is determined by the School's salary scale; progression within that scale is dependent on performance. The school salary scales are reviewed by the Remuneration Committee each year and adjusted for changes to cost of living.

Related Parties and other Connected Charities and Organisations

Whilst Exeter Mathematics School Academy Trust is sponsored by the University of Exeter and Exeter College, neither exercises control or significant influence over its decisions and operations. The roles of the sponsors are to provide support, advice and expertise to the Academy.

OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

Objectives and Aims

The principal objective and activity of the Academy is to advance, for the public benefit, education in the United Kingdom, by establishing, maintaining, carrying on, managing and developing a 16 to 19 Academy, offering a curriculum appropriate to the needs of its students, with a strong emphasis on Mathematics and its applications.

The school's mission is to raise the aspirations and achievements of mathematically able young people in the South West of England.

Objectives, Strategies and Activities

Following another excellent year of results for students, the school's focus this year was to work towards a sustainable future by building capacity, improving efficiency and securing appropriate premises. Key priorities identified by the school for the period were:

- Refine the Pastoral Curriculum;
- Support the development of U-Maths, the University Maths School Network;
- Make further progress towards a new boarding facility;
- Make progress towards securing a larger school building;
- Build capacity in the school leadership team;
- Take action to prioritise staff wellbeing;

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

- Develop efficient systems and structures to reduce workload, improve communication and support the transition towards a larger school;
- Support teacher development through peer coaching;
- Expand outreach programmes, including MESME Maths Circles and the re-introduction of our Year 10 residential.

Public Benefit

The Trustees confirm that they have complied with the duty in Section 17(5) of the Charities Act 2011 to have due regard to the Charity Commission's general guidance on public benefit in exercising their powers or duties. They have referred to this guidance when reviewing the Academy's aims and objectives and in planning its future activities.

Students at Exeter Mathematics School significantly benefit from attending the school, making academic progress beyond the norm for sixth form education, as evidenced by their high value-added scores each year and consistently high levels of achievement. In addition, drawing on the expertise and inspiration of University of Exeter academics and local industry leaders, we provide a unique curriculum that prepares students for the rigors of research and the independence required to succeed at university. By creating an environment in which young mathematicians and scientists can thrive, we are making an effective contribution to the supply of capable undergraduates into Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics (STEM), hence meeting a national need.

Furthermore, Exeter Mathematics School is committed to benefitting students and schools within the region it serves through the ongoing support and development of teaching and by offering a comprehensive outreach programme to students. In the past twelve months we have afforded enrichment and challenge opportunities to hundreds of students within the region, from year 6 through to year 13; activities have included masterclasses, competitions, careers assemblies, problem solving workshops, GCSE enhancement courses, and Physics and Mathematics Student Communities. We have also supported teachers to enhance their own practice delivering support as part of the Institute of Physics and in our role as a Computer Science Hub. We support other providers by offering the school as a central venue for mathematics related activities such as teacher CPD, National Centre for Excellence in Teaching Mathematics (NCETM) meetings and student events with the Advanced Maths Support Programme (AMSP).

STRATEGIC REPORT

ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE

The School has successfully met the majority of its key priorities, although it has yet to secure funding for a larger main school building. All measures of the educational experience of students indicates outstanding provision: high student and parent satisfaction, high attendance (93.29%) and retention (100%) of students and high levels of engagement from the University of Exeter and other external providers.

Despite the challenges faced throughout the pandemic, the 2023 cohort of students achieved excellent academic grades, achieving an average grade of A- for their A-levels.

The school is oversubscribed for 2023 and has continued to attract applicants from all four counties, with more students requiring residential accommodation, resulting in our boarding facilities being full.

We have expanded our outreach programme, offering more opportunities to students and teachers in the South West. We ran two summer residential events for year 10 students, reinstating a popular outreach activity for the first time post-pandemic. Our contract as the lead school for the West Country Computer Science Hub was extended and expanded and we increased our provision for students taking part in weekly MESME Maths Circles.

We have significantly contributed to the emerging network of maths schools (U-Maths) by organising both a staff and a governor conference, developing a website for U-Maths and serving on the U-Maths steering group. We have continued to support new maths schools by sharing our experience with them.

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

In March our boarding provision was inspected by OFSTED and found to be Outstanding in all areas. We have also made further progress towards our own boarding building. A building has been identified, contracts have been exchanged and a project team is in place and working closely with the headteacher. We have also presented a business case for school expansion and consulted widely on this plan.

The school has invested significantly in staff wellbeing, having appointed two members of staff to lead this work. We have evaluated our practice against the Education Staff Wellbeing Charter and have a policy and action plan in place. We have established a communications group who work collaboratively to identify and improve on communication issues, for example the simplification of Teams use. The school has invested in a new MIS system with the aim of further improving systems.

Much of our development work has been possible due to expanding the school's leadership team by appointing a new Pastoral Lead with responsibility for safeguarding and pastoral care.

We continue to be highly reflective and responsive to our students' emerging needs. Our self- evaluation is thorough and informed by external consultants and University of Exeter researchers, and the associated school development plan ensures we continue to improve our provision year on year.

Key Performance Indicators

KPI	2022/23	2021/22	2020/21
Attendance	93%	96%	97%
Retention	100%	98%	100%
Proportion of female students	24%	30%	32%
Pass Rate	99%	100%	100%
Average A-level Grade	A	A	A
Average A-level point score	45.5	48.8	51.1
A-level Value Added	NA	NA	0.44
% of students with AAB or better with two facilitating subjects	53%	66%	74%
"Best 3" Average Grade	A	A	A
"Best 3" Average points score	45.9	49.0	51.7
In Year Surplus/(Deficit)	£55,773	£102,102	£27,971
In year Surplus as a % of income	2.7%	5.5%	1.7%
Total Free Reserves	£673,234	£617,461	£493,552
Educational staff costs as a % of GAG	100.08%	108.59%	98.62%
Expenditure per student	£16,125	£14,434	£13,029

Going Concern

After making appropriate enquiries, the Board of Trustees has a reasonable expectation that the Academy Trust has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future. For this reason, it continues to adopt the going concern basis in preparing the financial statements.

FINANCIAL REVIEW

The income and expenditure of the Academy Trust in establishing the Exeter Mathematics School are set out within the Statement of Financial Position.

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**TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

During the period ended 31 August 2023, total expenditure (excluding restricted fixed asset funds and the pension fund) of £1,993,184.00 (2022: £1,757,460) was covered by grant funding from the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA), together with other incoming resources of £2,048,957 (2022: £1,859,562). The excess of income over expenditure for the year, after transfers to restricted fixed asset fund of £nil (2022: £nil) but before recognition of any pension movements, is £55,773 (2022: £102,102).

At 31 August 2023 the net book value of fixed assets was £1,789,624 (2022: £1,837,682) and movements in tangible fixed assets are shown in note 13 to the financial statements. The assets were used exclusively for providing education and the associated support services to the students of the Academy.

The Board of Trustees has continued to manage its boarding provision as an important element in broadening student access to EMS throughout Cornwall, Devon, Dorset and Somerset. At 31 August 2023 the cumulative deficit was £13,684 (2022: deficit £381) which complies with our intention stated in the previous accounts to return the boarding fund to breakeven.

Key financial policies adopted or reviewed during the year include the Finance Policy which lays out the framework for financial management, including financial responsibilities of the Board, Headteacher, managers, budget holders and other staff, as well as the delegated authority for spending.

Reserves Policy

The policy of the Trustees is to maintain a level of reserves that will be adequate to ensure the stability of the Academy's organisational operations, to protect it so that it has the ability to adjust quickly to financial circumstances, such as large unplanned expenditure, cyclical maintenance and working capital.

The level of reserves will be determined by Trustees annually and can fluctuate depending on operational needs, however the Trustees have determined that the Academy should normally aim to hold a minimum of £250,000 but not more than £600,000 in reserve. Actual free reserves at the year-end were £673,234 (2022: £617,461).

The Academy is planning to build a boarding facility and is seeking to expand in size. A higher level of reserves is therefore needed to prevent cash flow problems due to lagged funding whilst increasing student numbers and to ensure against unexpected costs. Reserves are now slightly above the Academy's upper limit but the Trustees have approved a deficit budget for the coming year which will bring them in line with our policy. This level of reserves will also adequately cover unforeseen emergencies or unexpected needs for funds and provide a suitable contingency fund to ensure the Academy is protected from the risk of insolvency or serious endangerment to their core purpose in advancing education within the United Kingdom.

The defined benefit pension scheme reserve has a negative balance. The effect of the deficit position of the pension scheme is that the Academy Trust is paying higher employers' pension contributions over a period of years. The higher employer contributions will be met from the Trust's annual income. Whilst the deficit will not be immediately eliminated, there should be no actual cash flow deficit on the fund, nor any direct impact on the free reserves of the Academy Trust.

Investment Policy

Trustees are committed to ensuring that all funds under their control are managed in such a way as to maximise return whilst minimising risk and has a policy in place to ensure that any investments are risk assessed and carefully considered, taking into account the advice of those with appropriate knowledge of financial investments.

PRINCIPAL RISKS AND UNCERTAINTIES

The Board of Trustees has reviewed the major risks to which the Academy Trust is exposed together with the operating, financial and compliance controls that have been implemented to mitigate those risks.

TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

Safeguarding and child protection – the Trustees continue to ensure that the highest standards are maintained in the areas of selection and monitoring of staff, the operation of child protection policies and procedures, health & safety and discipline.

Cost of living crisis - the rate of inflation poses a risk to the School which we are monitoring carefully. The immediate threat from energy costs has been mitigated with a new electricity contract for 3 years commencing 01 September 2022 set at £0.30 per KW. The risk of all costs increasing, in particular staff pay rises, without core funding being increased to reflect this is a significant risk. We also risk staff leaving due to lower than inflation pay rises leading to dissatisfaction.

Financial Risks and Uncertainties – our activities have increased due to the receipt of donations, the majority of which are from a single source. Should this donation not continue, the Academy will be unable to sustain activities and staffing at the current levels. The Maths School Top Up funding is at a flat rate that has not increased in line with inflation, this too risks the viability of the school, particularly if it remains at its current size.

Estate – our building is too small to meet our future needs and there is a risk that future opportunities for outreach and curriculum enhancement will be missed due to lack of capacity on site or lack of resources to hire alternative rooms. We are also having to hire outside venues when a more suitable building would avoid the need for this spend. Our building is, however, well maintained and the use of external experts to complete H&S audits, provides governors with the assurance they need that the school complies with relevant regulations and remains safe to use.

Boarding Sustainability – rents are rising in Exeter, making the cost of boarding increase and incentivising our landlord to displace us and offer accommodation to university students from whom he had get a greater return. The trustees have taken action towards securing our own boarding building which will mitigate this risk.

Governance and Management – successful recruitment, retention and training of Trustees with the required skillset is important to ensure governance and management are delivered effectively.

Staffing – success of the Academy is reliant on good staff, the effective selection of students and of supportive parents. Successful recruitment, retention and training of staff will continue to be crucial to the ongoing success of the school.

Fraud and management of funds – regular review of appropriate internal controls, procedures and controlled access to assets to reduce the risk of fraud and error to a minimum, especially as there is a small number of staff.

FUNDRAISING

In the current financial year, we carried out no significant fund-raising activities.

Students ran some charity events, such as busking and cake-sales. These were monitored by members of staff with oversight provided by the School Business Manager to ensure appropriate management of funds.

We have received no fundraising complaints.

PLANS FOR FUTURE PERIODS

The Academy will continue to strive to provide outstanding education. The Academy's focus continues to be on ensuring that best practice is fully embedded throughout all functions and that excellence is sustainable in the medium to long term.

The Academy will continue to be ambitious in its work with schools across the South West to promote and enhance the study of Mathematics and related subjects. It will seek to strengthen links with schools

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**TRUSTEES' REPORT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

throughout the region with the aim of ensuring that students from all backgrounds are able to benefit from its provision.

The Trustees will aim to maximise the use of the School and its assets. In 2023/24 we aim to:

- Continue to offer exceptional curriculum and learning experiences for students.
- Complete staff research projects to determine best practice in teaching and pastoral provision.
- Build expertise in SEND provision.
- Improve and increase opportunities for students to develop cultural capital.
- Invest in staff wellbeing and staff development.
- Further improve communication and increase efficiency in school systems.
- Consolidates links with our university sponsor.
- Make progress towards a new school building and a new boarding facility.
- Further expand our outreach programmes.

The Academy's vision is that:

Students will leave EMS well prepared for their next steps, having been challenged, inspired and supported to excel. They will have a palpable enthusiasm for learning, the confidence to face challenges and the skills to equip them to succeed.

We will inspire and nurture a love of Mathematics, Physics and Computer Science in younger students and will support teacher development in the South West of England. EMS will be a beacon of excellence, contributing to educational research and the development of pedagogy, and an active partner in the collaborative network of Maths Schools.

AUDITOR

In so far as the Trustees are aware:

- there is no relevant audit information of which the Charitable Company's auditor is unaware; and
- the Trustees have taken all steps that they ought to have taken to make themselves aware of any relevant audit information and to establish that the auditor is aware of that information.

The auditors, Bishop Fleming LLP, are willing to continue in office and a resolution to appoint them will be proposed at the annual general meeting.

The Trustees' Report, incorporating a strategic report, was approved by order of the Board of Trustees, as the company directors, on ~~...5 DEC 2023~~ and signed on its behalf by:



T Paulden
Chair of Trustees

**EXETER MATHEMATICS SCHOOL
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**GOVERNANCE STATEMENT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

SCOPE OF RESPONSIBILITY

As Trustees we acknowledge we have overall responsibility for ensuring that Exeter Mathematics School has an effective and appropriate system of control, financial and otherwise. However, such a system is designed to manage rather than eliminate the risk of failure to achieve business objectives and can provide only reasonable and not absolute assurance against material misstatement or loss.

The Board of Trustees has delegated the day-to-day responsibility to the Headteacher, as Accounting Officer, for ensuring financial controls conform with the requirements of both propriety and good financial management and in accordance with the requirements and responsibilities assigned to it in the funding agreement between Exeter Mathematics School and the Secretary of State for Education. They are also responsible for reporting to the Board of Trustees any material weaknesses or breakdowns in internal control.

GOVERNANCE

The information on governance included here supplements that described in the Trustees' Report and in the Statement of Trustees' Responsibilities. The Board of Trustees has formally met 4 times during the year with the following purpose:

1. To ensure clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction for the School.
2. To hold the Headteacher to account for the educational performance of the School and its students, and the performance management of staff.
3. To oversee the financial performance of the School and make sure its money is well spent and resources managed responsibly.
4. To promote the success of the School and act in the School's best interests at all times.
5. To exercise independent judgement and avoid conflicts of interest.
6. To act with reasonable care, skill and diligence.

Attendance during the year at meetings of the Full Board of Trustees was as follows, this includes 4 Full Board meetings, 1 Extraordinary meeting and 1 Strategy Day.

Trustee	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
Sally Basker	3	6
Jeremy Child	6	6
Richard Church	5	6
Lewis Day	6	6
Cathy Duston	6	6
Ken Evans	5	6
Taro Fujita	4	6
Jennie Hamilton	5	6
Nathan Harvey	6	6
Stephen Mariadas	6	6
Gemma Noble	2	2
Tim Paulden	5	6
Fiona Thomas	5	5
Andy Bartin	5	6
Peter Vukusic	3	6
Kerry Burnham	6	6

Five governors came to the end of their terms of office at the end of the year. Three governors were appointed/elected at the start of the year and 1 was appointed/elected mid year.

The Board has five committees as outlined in the Trustees' Report. The Board ensures full coverage of the scope of its work by the number of meetings it holds, the structure of the delegation to committees, the quality

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**GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

and quantity of the information it receives and interrogates, and the comprehensive policy and scrutiny schedule it undertakes annually.

The Board has link Governors for each committee and these Governors carry out scrutiny visits to assess areas of operations that fall within their remit. All members of the Senior Leadership Team provide information to the Board and the open and constructive relationship between the Headteacher and the Board is a particular strength. Information from external sources, comparative data from other providers and the growing group of Maths Schools gives the Board confidence in the quality of information and data it receives. Trustees are able to access and scrutinise any information via the governance portal.

Governance Review

In March 2023 the annual evaluation of governance was undertaken by means of a survey of all Trustees. The questions in the survey drew upon the six key features of effective governance (as set out in the Governance Handbook, 2020) and the 20 key questions for the Governing Body to Ask Itself (published by the All-Party Parliamentary Group on Education, Governance and Leadership). The survey looked at:

1. The Board and its role
2. Skills development and training
3. Finance and risk
4. Stakeholders
5. Outcome and data
6. Operation and logistics
7. The Chair

The outcomes from the evaluation were considered by the Governance Committee and the Full Board of Trustees at its annual strategy day on 24th March 2023. The outcomes showed no cause for concern and confirmed that the Board feels well supported in carrying out its roles and responsibilities. Where individual comments have been made, the Chair of Trustees has followed up with the Trustee concerned. The Board will carry out its next review in Summer 2024.

The Resources Committee is a sub-committee of the main Board of Trustees and fulfils the audit function of the Board, meeting four times a year. Its purpose is:

1. To prepare and recommend to the Board the annual budget and a 5-year financial plan.
2. To monitor the School's financial performance, including consideration of monthly accounts and reviewing of internal controls, its overall staffing arrangements (noting matters delegated to the Remuneration Committee) and any other management processes; and to make any necessary recommendations to the Board.
3. To vire funds and to authorise spending within approved limits.
4. To ensure the regular audit of the School's accounts including the appointment of external auditors and to respond to recommendations arising.
5. To approve the annual return (using the School Resource Management Self Assessment Tool SRMSAT) to the ESFA.
6. To establish and maintain financial policies including arrangements for delegation to the Committee, the Headteacher and other staff.
7. To promote a fraud awareness culture and to consider fraud mitigation actions.
8. To keep under review value for money across the School's activities.
9. To recommend to the Board and to keep under review a buildings strategy.
10. To ensure compliance with Health and Safety legislation.
11. To identify and manage risk, ensuring that robust systems are in place for regular monitoring and review, that mitigating action is taken as appropriate, and that all major risks are reported to the Board.
12. To ensure effective controls in place to secure data in line with GDPR requirements.

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**GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)
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The Resources Committee meets four times a year and attendance is summarised below:

Trustees	Meetings attended	Out of a possible
Cathy Durston (Chair)	4	4
Nathan Harvey	4	4
Jeremy Child	3	4
Richard Church	3	4
Andy Bartin	2	4
Kerry Burnham	4	4
Gemma Noble	1	1

Financial oversight is ensured by the sharing of monthly accounts with all Trustees. This includes a review of the monthly Profit and Loss report and Balance Sheet.

REVIEW OF VALUE FOR MONEY

As Accounting Officer, the Headteacher has responsibility for ensuring that the Academy Trust delivers good value in the use of public resources. The Accounting Officer understands that value for money refers to the educational and wider societal outcomes as well as estates safety and management achieved in return for the taxpayer resources received.

The Accounting Officer considers how the Trusts' use of its resources has provided good value for money during each academic year and reports to the Board of Trustees where value for money can be improved, including the use of benchmarking data where appropriate. The Accounting Officer for the Academy Trust has delivered improved value for money during the year by:

- Ensuring there is comprehensive monitoring of spending and budgets to ensure that all spending is within the School's long term financial plan. This monitoring was undertaken by the Headteacher, School Trustees and Internal and External Auditors.
- Having structures, purchasing policies and guidelines, in addition to a scheme of delegation clearly stating individual levels of authority and accountability for all purchases.
- Maintaining a Risk Register that records all the risks faced by the school, financial or otherwise. This register is reviewed at every Resources committee meeting and annually by the Full Board.
- Effective purchasing adhering to the competitive tendering policy for purchases of low, medium and high value.
- Taking opportunities to generate additional revenue from grants and other income for outreach activities to promote and encourage the understanding and uptake of Maths in other schools.
- Taking actions based on the findings of Health and Safety audits, including ensuring staff training is fully compliant and up to date.

THE PURPOSE OF THE SYSTEM OF INTERNAL CONTROL

The system of internal control is designed to manage risk to a reasonable level rather than to eliminate all risk of failure to achieve policies, aims and objectives. It can, therefore, only provide reasonable and not absolute assurance of effectiveness. The system of internal control is based on an ongoing process designed to identify and prioritise the risks, the achievement of Academy Trust policies, aims and objectives, to evaluate the likelihood of those risks being realised and the impact should they be realised, and to manage them efficiently, effectively and economically. The system of internal control has been in place in Exeter Mathematics School for the period from 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023 and up to the date of approval of the Annual Report and Financial Statements.

CAPACITY TO HANDLE RISK

The Board of Trustees has reviewed the key risks to which the Academy Trust is exposed together with the operating, financial and compliance controls that have been implemented to mitigate those risks. The Board of Trustees is of the view that there is a formal ongoing process for identifying, evaluating and managing the Trust's significant risks that have been in place for the period from 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023 and

**EXETER MATHEMATICS SCHOOL
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

up to the date of approval of the Annual Report and Financial Statements. This process is regularly reviewed by the Board of Trustees.

THE RISK AND CONTROL FRAMEWORK

The Academy Trust's system of internal financial control is based on a framework of regular management information and administrative procedures including the segregation of duties and a system of delegation and accountability. It includes:

- Comprehensive budgeting and monitoring systems with an annual budget and periodic financial reports which are reviewed and agreed by the Board of Trustees.
- Regular reviews by the Resources Committee of reports which indicate financial performance against the forecasts and of major purchase plans, capital works, and expenditure programmes.
- Setting targets to measure financial and other performance.
- Clearly defined purchasing (asset purchase or capital investment) guidelines.
- Delegation of authority and segregation of duties.
- Identification and management of risk.

The Board of Trustees have considered the need for scrutiny of financial controls and in order to ensure best practice, appointed in February 2022 an independent company to carry out termly audits looking at different parts of finance and associated functions. The three functions examined this year have been:

- Accommodation Bursary
- Fixed Assets
- Related Parties

There were no material control issues arising from the internal auditors' work.

At each meeting the internal auditors report to the Board of Trustees, through the Resources Committee on the operation of the systems of control and on the discharge of the Board of Trustees' financial responsibilities.

REVIEW OF EFFECTIVENESS

The overall framework of control is reviewed by the Resources committee based on information provided from:

- Monthly finance meetings and schedule for sampling processes.
- The work of the internal auditors.
- The work of the external auditors.
- The financial managements and governance self-assessment process.
- The work of Business Manager who had responsibility for the development and maintenance of the internal control framework i.e., Internal Audit plan.

This information presumes the Accounting Officer has been advised of the implications of the result of their review of the system of internal control by the Resources Committee and a plan to address weaknesses and ensure continuous improvement of the system is in place.

**EXETER MATHEMATICS SCHOOL
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**GOVERNANCE STATEMENT (CONTINUED)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

Approved by order of the members of the Board of Trustees on 5 Dec 2023 and signed on their behalf by:



T Paulden
Chair of Trustees



K Burnham
Accounting Officer

**EXETER MATHEMATICS SCHOOL
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

STATEMENT ON REGULARITY, PROPRIETY AND COMPLIANCE

As Accounting Officer of Exeter Mathematics School I have considered my responsibility to notify the Academy Board of Trustees and the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) of material irregularity, impropriety and non-compliance with terms and conditions of all funding, including for estates safety an management, under the funding agreement in place between the Academy and the Secretary of State for Education. As part of my consideration I have had due regard to the requirements of the Academy Trust Handbook 2022, including responsibilities for estates safety and management.

I confirm that I and the Academy Board of Trustees are able to identify any material irregular or improper use of all funds by the Academy, or material non-compliance with the terms and conditions of funding under the Academy's funding agreement and the Academy Trust Handbook 2022.

I confirm that no instances of material irregularity, impropriety or funding non-compliance have been discovered to date. If any instances are identified after the date of this statement, these will be notified to the Board of Trustees and ESFA.



K Burnham
Accounting Officer
Date: 5/12/23

**EXETER MATHEMATICS SCHOOL
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**STATEMENT OF TRUSTEES' RESPONSIBILITIES
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

The Trustees (who are also the directors of the charitable company for the purposes of company law) are responsible for preparing the Trustees' Report and the financial statements in accordance with the Academies Accounts Direction published by the Education and Skills Funding Agency, United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice) and applicable law and regulations.

Company law requires the Trustees to prepare financial statements for each financial year. Under company law, the Trustees must not approve the financial statements unless they are satisfied that they give a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the charitable company and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure, for that period. In preparing these financial statements, the Trustees are required to:

- select suitable accounting policies and then apply them consistently;
- observe the methods and principles of the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023;
- make judgments and accounting estimates that are reasonable and prudent;
- state whether applicable UK Accounting Standards have been followed, subject to any material departures disclosed and explained in the financial statements;
- prepare the financial statements on the going concern basis unless it is inappropriate to presume that the charitable company will continue in business.

The Trustees are responsible for keeping adequate accounting records that are sufficient to show and explain the charitable company's transactions and disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time the financial position of the charitable company and enable them to ensure that the financial statements comply with the Companies Act 2006. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the charitable company and hence for taking reasonable steps for the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Trustees are responsible for ensuring that in its conduct and operation the charitable company applies financial and other controls, which conform with the requirements both of propriety and of good financial management. They are also responsible for ensuring grants received from ESFA/DfE have been applied for the purposes intended.

The Trustees are responsible for the maintenance and integrity of the corporate and financial information included on the charitable company's website. Legislation in the United Kingdom governing the preparation and dissemination of financial statements may differ from legislation in other jurisdictions.

Approved by order of the members of the Board of Trustees and signed on its behalf by:



T Paulden
Chair of Trustees

Date: 5/12/2023

**EXETER MATHEMATICS SCHOOL
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF EXETER
MATHEMATICS SCHOOL**

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Exeter Mathematics School (the 'academy') for the year ended 31 August 2023 which comprise the Statement of Financial Activities, the Balance Sheet, the Statement of Cash Flows and the related notes, including a summary of significant accounting policies. The financial reporting framework that has been applied in their preparation is applicable law, United Kingdom Accounting Standards (United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice), including Financial Reporting Standard 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland', the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023 issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

In our opinion the financial statements:

- give a true and fair view of the state of the Academy's affairs as at 31 August 2023 and of its incoming resources and application of resources, including its income and expenditure for the year then ended;
- have been properly prepared in accordance with United Kingdom Generally Accepted Accounting Practice; and
- have been prepared in accordance with the requirements of the Companies Act 2006, the Charities SORP 2019 and the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023 issued by the Education and Skills Funding Agency.

Basis for opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing (UK) (ISAs (UK)) and applicable law. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements section of our report. We are independent of the Academy in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in the United Kingdom, including the Financial Reporting Council's Ethical Standard, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Conclusions relating to going concern

In auditing the financial statements, we have concluded that the Trustees' use of the going concern basis of accounting in the preparation of the financial statements is appropriate.

Based on the work we have performed, we have not identified any material uncertainties relating to events or conditions that, individually or collectively, may cast significant doubt on the Academy's ability to continue as a going concern for a period of at least twelve months from when the financial statements are authorised for issue.

Our responsibilities and the responsibilities of the Trustees with respect to going concern are described in the relevant sections of this report.

**EXETER MATHEMATICS SCHOOL
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF EXETER
MATHEMATICS SCHOOL (CONTINUED)**

Other information

The other information comprises the information included in the Annual Report and Financial Statements other than the financial statements and our Auditors' Report thereon. The Trustees are responsible for the other information contained within the Annual Report and Financial Statements. Our opinion on the financial statements does not cover the other information and, except to the extent otherwise explicitly stated in our report, we do not express any form of assurance conclusion thereon. Our responsibility is to read the other information and, in doing so, consider whether the other information is materially inconsistent with the financial statements or our knowledge obtained in the course of the audit, or otherwise appears to be materially misstated. If we identify such material inconsistencies or apparent material misstatements, we are required to determine whether this gives rise to a material misstatement in the financial statements themselves. If, based on the work we have performed, we conclude that there is a material misstatement of this other information, we are required to report that fact.

We have nothing to report in this regard.

Opinion on other matters prescribed by the Companies Act 2006

In our opinion, based on the work undertaken in the course of the audit:

- the information given in the Trustees' Report including the Strategic Report for the financial year for which the financial statements are prepared is consistent with the financial statements.
- the Trustees' Report and the Strategic Report have been prepared in accordance with applicable legal requirements.

Matters on which we are required to report by exception

In the light of our knowledge and understanding of the Academy and its environment obtained in the course of the audit, we have not identified material misstatements in the Trustees' Report including the Strategic Report.

We have nothing to report in respect of the following matters in relation to which the Companies Act 2006 requires us to report to you if, in our opinion:

- adequate accounting records have not been kept, or returns adequate for our audit have not been received from branches not visited by us; or
- the financial statements are not in agreement with the accounting records and returns; or
- certain disclosures of Trustees' remuneration specified by law are not made; or
- we have not received all the information and explanations we require for our audit.

Responsibilities of trustees

As explained more fully in the Trustees' Responsibilities Statement, the Trustees (who are also the directors of the Academy for the purposes of company law) are responsible for the preparation of the financial statements and for being satisfied that they give a true and fair view, and for such internal control as the Trustees determine is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, the Trustees are responsible for assessing the Academy's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless the Trustees either intend to liquidate the Academy or to cease operations, or have no realistic alternative but to do so.

INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF EXETER MATHEMATICS SCHOOL (CONTINUED)

Auditors' responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an Auditors' Report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with ISAs (UK) will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

Irregularities, including fraud, are instances of non-compliance with laws and regulations. We design procedures in line with our responsibilities, outlined above, to detect material misstatements in respect of irregularities, including fraud. The extent to which our procedures are capable of detecting irregularities, including fraud is detailed below.

In identifying and assessing risks of material misstatement in respect of irregularities, including fraud and non-compliance with laws and regulations, we considered the following:

- the nature of the Academy sector, control environment and the Academy's performance;
- results of our enquiries of management and the Trustee board, including the committees charged with governance over the Academy's finance and control, about their own identification and assessment of the risks of irregularities;
- any matters we identified having obtained and reviewed the Academy's documentation of their policies and procedures relating to: identifying, evaluating and complying with laws and regulations and whether they were aware of any instances of non-compliance; detecting and responding to the risks of fraud and whether they have knowledge of any actual, suspected or alleged fraud; the internal controls established to mitigate risks of fraud or noncompliance with laws and regulations;
- how the Academy ensured it met its obligations arising from it being financed by the ESFA and other funders, and as such material compliance with these obligations is required to ensure the Academy will continue to receive its public funding and be authorised to operate, including around ensuring there is no material unauthorised use of funds and expenditure;
- how the Academy ensured it met its obligations to its principal regulator, the Secretary of State for Education; and
- these matters were discussed among the audit engagement team who also considered any potential indicators of fraud.

As a result of these procedures, we considered the opportunities and incentives that may exist within the organisation for fraud, which included incorrect recognition of revenue, management override of controls using manual journal entries, procurement and payroll. We identified the greatest potential for fraud as incorrect recognition of revenue and management override using manual journal entries.

In common with all audits under ISAs (UK), we are also required to perform specific procedures to respond to the risk of management override. We also obtained an understanding of the legal and regulatory frameworks that the Academy operates in, focusing on provisions of those laws and regulations that had a direct effect on the determination of material amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The key laws and regulations we considered in this context included the Academies Accounts Direction, Academies Financial Handbook, UK Companies Act and tax legislation.

In addition, we considered provisions of other laws and regulations that do not have a direct effect on the financial statements but compliance with which may be fundamental to the Academy's ability to operate or to avoid a material penalty. These included safeguarding regulations, data protection regulations, occupational health and safety regulations, education and inspections legislation, building legislation and employment legislation.

**EXETER MATHEMATICS SCHOOL
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT ON THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS TO THE MEMBERS OF EXETER
MATHEMATICS SCHOOL (CONTINUED)**

Our procedures to respond to risks identified included the following:

- reviewing the financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess compliance with provisions of relevant laws and regulations described as having a direct effect on the financial statements;
- reviewing the financial statement disclosures and testing to supporting documentation to assess the recognition of revenue;
- enquiring of Trustees and management and those charged with governance concerning actual and potential litigation and claims;
- performing procedures to confirm material compliance with the requirements of its regulators;
- performing analytical procedures to identify any unusual or unexpected relationships that may indicate risks of material misstatement due to fraud;
- reading minutes of meetings of those charged with governance and reviewing internal control reports; and
- in addressing the risk of fraud through management override of controls, testing the appropriateness of journal entries and other adjustments; and assessing whether the judgements made in making accounting estimates are indicative of a potential bias.

We also communicated relevant identified laws and regulations and potential fraud risks to all engagement team members, and remained alert to any indications of fraud or non-compliance with laws and regulations throughout the audit.

Our audit procedures were designed to respond to risks of material misstatement in the financial statements, recognising that the risk of not detecting a material misstatement due to fraud is higher than the risk of not detecting one resulting from an error, as fraud may involve deliberate concealment by, for example, forgery, misrepresentations or through collusion. There are inherent limitations in the audit procedures performed and the further removed non-compliance with laws and regulations is from the events and transactions reflected in the financial statements, the less likely we would become aware of it.

A further description of our responsibilities for the audit of the financial statements is located on the Financial Reporting Council's website at: www.frc.org.uk/auditorsresponsibilities. This description forms part of our Auditors' Report.

Use of our report

This report is made solely to the Academy's members, as a body, in accordance with Chapter 3 of Part 16 of the Companies Act 2006. Our audit work has been undertaken so that we might state to the Academy's members those matters we are required to state to them in an Auditors' Report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than the Academy and its members, as a body, for our audit work, for this report, or for the opinions we have formed.



Tim Borton FCA (Senior Statutory Auditor)

for and on behalf of

Bishop Fleming LLP

Chartered Accountants

Statutory Auditors

2nd Floor Stratus House

Emperor Way

Exeter Business Park

Exeter

EX1 3QS

Date: 18/12/2023

**EXETER MATHEMATICS SCHOOL
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO EXETER
MATHEMATICS SCHOOL AND THE EDUCATION & SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY**

In accordance with the terms of our engagement letter dated [enter date here] and further to the requirements of the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA) as included in the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023, we have carried out an engagement to obtain limited assurance about whether the expenditure disbursed and income received by Exeter Mathematics School during the year 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023 have been applied to the purposes identified by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

This report is made solely to Exeter Mathematics School and ESFA in accordance with the terms of our engagement letter. Our work has been undertaken so that we might state to Exeter Mathematics School and ESFA those matters we are required to state in a report and for no other purpose. To the fullest extent permitted by law, we do not accept or assume responsibility to anyone other than Exeter Mathematics School and ESFA, for our work, for this report, or for the conclusion we have formed.

Respective responsibilities of Exeter Mathematics School's accounting officer and the reporting accountant

The accounting officer is responsible, under the requirements of Exeter Mathematics School's funding agreement with the Secretary of State for Education dated [enter date here] and the Academy Trust Handbook, extant from 1 September 2022, for ensuring that expenditure disbursed and income received is applied for the purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions conform to the authorities which govern them.

Our responsibilities for this engagement are established in the United Kingdom by our profession's ethical guidance and are to obtain limited assurance and report in accordance with our engagement letter and the requirements of the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023. We report to you whether anything has come to our attention in carrying out our work which suggests that in all material respects, expenditure disbursed and income received during the year 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023 have not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament or that the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.

**EXETER MATHEMATICS SCHOOL
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**INDEPENDENT REPORTING ACCOUNTANT'S ASSURANCE REPORT ON REGULARITY TO EXETER
MATHEMATICS SCHOOL AND THE EDUCATION & SKILLS FUNDING AGENCY (CONTINUED)**

Approach

We conducted our engagement in accordance with the Framework and Guide for External Auditors and Reporting Accountant of Academy Trusts issued by ESFA. We performed a limited assurance engagement as defined in our engagement letter.

The objective of a limited assurance engagement is to perform such procedures as to obtain information and explanations in order to provide us with sufficient appropriate evidence to express a negative conclusion on regularity.

A limited assurance engagement is more limited in scope than a reasonable assurance engagement and consequently does not enable us to obtain assurance that we would become aware of all significant matters that might be identified in a reasonable assurance engagement. Accordingly, we do not express a positive opinion.

Our engagement includes examination, on a test basis, of evidence relevant to the regularity and propriety of the Academy's income and expenditure.

The work undertaken to draw a conclusion includes:

As assessment of the risk of material irregularity and impropriety across all of the Trust's activities;

Further testing and review of the areas identified through the risk assessment including enquiry, identification of controls processes and examination of supporting evidence across all areas identified as well as additional verification work where considered necessary; and

Consideration of evidence obtained through the work detailed above and the work completed as part of our audit of the financial statements in order to support the regularity conclusion.

In line with the Framework and guide for external auditors and reporting accountants of academy trusts issued April 2023, we have not performed any additional procedures regarding the Trust's compliance with safeguarding, health and safety and estates management.

Conclusion

In the course of our work, nothing has come to our attention which suggest in all material respects the expenditure disbursed and income received during the year 1 September 2022 to 31 August 2023 has not been applied to purposes intended by Parliament and the financial transactions do not conform to the authorities which govern them.



Reporting Accountant
Bishop Fleming LLP
Chartered Accountants
Statutory Auditors
2nd Floor Stratus House
Emperor Way
Exeter Business Park
Exeter
EX1 3QS

Date: 18/12/2023

**EXETER MATHEMATICS SCHOOL
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES (INCORPORATING INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT)
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

	Note	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	As restated Total funds 2022 £
Income from:						
Donations and capital grants	3	104,877	426	25,247	130,550	119,020
Investments	6	6,133	-	-	6,133	88
Charitable activities	4	193,191	1,744,330	-	1,937,521	1,753,012
Total income		304,201	1,744,756	25,247	2,074,204	1,872,120
Expenditure on:						
Charitable activities		118,584	1,885,600	59,818	2,064,002	1,934,109
Total expenditure		118,584	1,885,600	59,818	2,064,002	1,934,109
Net movement in funds before other recognised gains		185,617	(140,844)	(34,571)	10,202	(61,989)
Other recognised gains:						
Actuarial gains on defined benefit pension schemes	23	-	71,000	-	71,000	450,000
Net movement in funds		185,617	(69,844)	(34,571)	81,202	388,011
Reconciliation of funds:						
Total funds brought forward		152,902	400,559	1,848,227	2,401,688	2,013,677
Net movement in funds		185,617	(69,844)	(34,571)	81,202	388,011
Total funds carried forward		338,519	330,715	1,813,656	2,482,890	2,401,688

The Statement of Financial Activities includes all gains and losses recognised in the year.

The notes on pages 27 to 52 form part of these financial statements.

**EXETER MATHEMATICS SCHOOL
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)
REGISTERED NUMBER:08515877**

**BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 AUGUST 2023**

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Fixed assets			
Tangible assets	13	1,789,624	1,837,682
		<u>1,789,624</u>	<u>1,837,682</u>
Current assets			
Debtors	14	87,058	98,274
Cash at bank and in hand	20	790,162	896,997
		<u>877,220</u>	<u>995,271</u>
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	15	(179,954)	(367,265)
		<u>697,266</u>	<u>628,006</u>
Net current assets			
		<u>2,486,890</u>	<u>2,465,688</u>
Net assets excluding pension liability			
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	23	(4,000)	(64,000)
		<u>2,482,890</u>	<u>2,401,688</u>
Total net assets			
Funds of the Academy			
Restricted funds:			
Fixed asset funds	16	1,813,656	1,848,227
Restricted income funds	16	334,715	464,559
		<u>2,148,371</u>	<u>2,312,786</u>
Restricted funds excluding pension reserve	16	2,148,371	2,312,786
Pension reserve	16	(4,000)	(64,000)
		<u>2,144,371</u>	<u>2,248,786</u>
Total restricted funds	16	2,144,371	2,248,786
Unrestricted income funds	16	338,519	152,902
		<u>2,482,890</u>	<u>2,401,688</u>
Total funds			

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with the provisions applicable to entities subject to the small companies regime.

The financial statements on pages 24 to 52 were approved by the Trustees, and authorised for issue on and are signed on their behalf, by:

5 December 2023



T Paulden
Chair of Trustees

The notes on pages 27 to 52 form part of these financial statements.

**EXETER MATHEMATICS SCHOOL
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

	Note	2023 £	2022 £
Cash flows from operating activities			
Net cash (used in)/provided by operating activities	18	(126,455)	315,415
Cash flows from investing activities	19	19,620	10,458
Change in cash and cash equivalents in the year		(106,835)	325,873
Cash and cash equivalents at the beginning of the year		896,997	571,124
Cash and cash equivalents at the end of the year	20, 21	<u>790,162</u>	<u>896,997</u>

The notes on pages 27 to 52 form part of these financial statements

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

1. Accounting policies

A summary of the principal accounting policies adopted (which have been applied consistently, except where noted), judgments and key sources of estimation uncertainty, is set out below.

1.1 BASIS OF PREPARATION OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

The financial statements of the Academy, which is a public benefit entity under FRS 102, have been prepared under the historic cost convention in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard Applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102), the Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) (Charities SORP (FRS 102)), the Academies Accounts Direction 2022 to 2023 issued by ESFA, the Charities Act 2011 and the Companies Act 2006.

1.2 GOING CONCERN

The Trustees assess whether the use of going concern is appropriate i.e. whether there are any material uncertainties related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the ability of the Academy to continue as a going concern. The Trustees make this assessment in respect of a period of at least one year from the date of authorisation for issue of the financial statements and have concluded that the Academy has adequate resources to continue in operational existence for the foreseeable future and there are no material uncertainties about the Academy's ability to continue as a going concern, thus they continue to adopt the going concern basis of accounting in preparing the financial statements.

1.3 INCOME

All incoming resources are recognised when the Academy has entitlement to the funds, the receipt is probable and the amount can be measured reliably.

Grants are included in the Statement of Financial Activities on a receivable basis. The balance of income received for specific purposes but not expended during the period is shown in the relevant funds on the Balance Sheet. Where income is received in advance of meeting any performance-related conditions there is not unconditional entitlement to the income and its recognition is deferred and included in creditors as deferred income until the performance-related conditions are met. Where entitlement occurs before income is received, the income is accrued.

General Annual Grant is recognised in full in the Statement of Financial Activities in the year for which it is receivable and any abatement in respect of the period is deducted from income and recognised as a liability.

Capital grants are recognised in full when there is an unconditional entitlement to the grant. Unspent amounts of capital grant are reflected in the Balance sheet in the restricted fixed asset fund. Capital grants are recognised when there is entitlement and are not deferred over the life of the asset on which they are expended.

Sponsorship income provided to the Academy which amounts to a donation is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities in the period in which it is receivable (where there are no performance-related conditions), where the receipt is probable and it can be measured reliably.

Donations are recognised on a receivable basis (where there are no performance-related conditions) where the receipt is probable and the amount can be reliably measured.

Other income, including the hire of facilities, is recognised in the year it is receivable and to the extent the Academy has provided the goods or services.

**EXETER MATHEMATICS SCHOOL
(A COMPANY LIMITED BY GUARANTEE)**

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.4 EXPENDITURE

Expenditure is recognised once there is a legal or constructive obligation to transfer economic benefit to a third party, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is classified by activity. The costs of each activity are made up of the total of direct costs and shared costs, including support costs involved in undertaking each activity. Direct costs attributable to a single activity are allocated directly to that activity. Shared costs which contribute to more than one activity and support costs which are not attributable to a single activity are apportioned between those activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources. Central staff costs are allocated on the basis of time spent, and depreciation charges allocated on the portion of the asset's use.

Expenditure on raising funds includes all expenditure incurred by the Academy to raise funds for its charitable purposes and includes costs of all fundraising activities events and non-charitable trading.

Expenditure on charitable activities are costs incurred on the Academy's educational operations, including support costs and costs relating to the governance of the Academy apportioned to charitable activities.

- **Charitable activities**

These are costs incurred on the Academy's educational operations, including support costs and costs relating to the governance of the Academy apportioned to charitable activities.

All resources expended are inclusive of irrecoverable VAT.

1.5 INTEREST RECEIVABLE

Interest on funds held on deposit is included when receivable and the amount can be measured reliably by the Academy; this is normally upon notification of the interest paid or payable by the institution with whom the funds are deposited.

1.6 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS

Assets costing £1,000 or more are capitalised as tangible fixed assets and are carried at cost, net of depreciation and any provision for impairment.

Where tangible fixed assets have been acquired with the aid of specific grants, either from the government or from the private sector, they are included in the Balance Sheet at cost and depreciated over their expected useful economic life. Where there are specific conditions attached to the funding requiring the continued use of the asset, the related grants are credited to a restricted fixed asset fund in the Statement of Financial Activities and carried forward in the Balance Sheet. Depreciation on the relevant assets is charged directly to the restricted fixed asset fund in the Statement of Financial Activities. Where tangible fixed assets have been acquired with unrestricted funds, depreciation on such assets is charged to the unrestricted fund.

Depreciation is provided on all tangible fixed assets other than freehold land and assets under construction, at rates calculated to write off the cost of each asset on a straight-line basis over its expected useful life, as follows:

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.6 TANGIBLE FIXED ASSETS (CONTINUED)

Depreciation is provided on the following bases:

Long-term leasehold property	- 0.8% - 2%
Furniture and equipment	- 20%
Computer equipment	- 33%

A review for impairment of a fixed asset is carried out if events or changes in circumstances indicate that the carrying value of any fixed asset may not be recoverable. Shortfalls between the carrying value of fixed assets and their recoverable amounts are recognised as impairments. Impairment losses are recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities.

1.7 DEBTORS

Trade and other debtors with no stated interest rate and due within one year are recorded at the amount of the cash or other consideration expected to be received. Prepayments are valued at the amount paid.'

1.8 CASH AT BANK AND IN HAND

Cash at bank and in hand includes cash and short-term highly liquid investments with a short maturity of three months or less from the date of acquisition or opening of the deposit or similar account and cash on deposit that has a notice period of less than 30 days.

1.9 LIABILITIES

Liabilities are recognised when there is an obligation at the Balance Sheet date as a result of a past event, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefit will be required in settlement, and the amount of the settlement can be estimated reliably. Liabilities are recognised at the amount that the Academy anticipates it will pay to settle the debt or the amount it has received as advanced payments for the goods or services it must provide.

1.10 FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

The Academy only holds basic financial instruments as defined in FRS 102. The financial assets and financial liabilities of the Academy and their measurement bases are as follows:

Financial assets - trade and other debtors are basic financial instruments and are debt instruments measured at amortised cost as detailed in note 14. Prepayments are not financial instruments.

Cash at bank is classified as a basic financial instrument and is measured at face value.

Financial liabilities - trade creditors, accruals and other creditors are financial instruments, and are measured at amortised cost as detailed in note 15. Taxation and social security are not included in the financial instruments disclosure definition. Deferred income is not deemed to be a financial liability, as the cash settlement has already taken place and there is an obligation to deliver services rather than cash or another financial instrument.

**EXETER MATHEMATICS SCHOOL
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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.11 TAXATION

The Academy is considered to pass the tests set out in Paragraph 1 Schedule 6 of the Finance Act 2010 and therefore it meets the definition of a charitable company for UK corporation tax purposes.

Accordingly, the Academy is potentially exempt from taxation in respect of income or capital gains received within categories covered by Part 11, chapter 3 of the Corporation Tax Act 2010 or Section 256 of the Taxation of Chargeable Gains Act 1992, to the extent that such income or gains are applied exclusively to charitable purposes.

1.12 OPERATING LEASES

Rentals paid under operating leases are charged to the Statement of Financial Activities on a straight line basis over the lease term.

1.13 PENSIONS

Retirement benefits to employees of the Academy are provided by the Teachers' Pension Scheme ("TPS") and the Local Government Pension Scheme ("LGPS"). These are defined benefit schemes.

The TPS is an unfunded scheme and contributions are calculated so as to spread the cost of pensions over employees' working lives with the Academy in such a way that the pension cost is a substantially level percentage of current and future pensionable payroll. The contributions are determined by the Government Actuary on the basis of quadrennial valuations using a prospective unit credit method. TPS is an unfunded multi-employer scheme with no underlying assets to assign between employers. Consequently, the TPS is treated as a defined contribution scheme for accounting purposes and the contributions recognised in the period to which they relate.

The LGPS is a funded multi-employer scheme and the assets are held separately from those of the Academy in separate trustee administered funds. Pension scheme assets are measured at fair value and liabilities are measured on an actuarial basis using the projected unit credit method and discounted at a rate equivalent to the current rate of return on a high quality corporate bond of equivalent term and currency to the liabilities. The actuarial valuations are obtained at least triennially and are updated at each Balance Sheet date. The amounts charged to operating surplus are the current service costs and the costs of scheme introductions, benefit changes, settlements and curtailments. They are included as part of staff costs as incurred. Net interest on the net defined benefit liability/asset is also recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities and comprises the interest cost on the defined benefit obligation and interest income on the scheme assets, calculated by multiplying the fair value of the scheme assets at the beginning of the period by the rate used to discount the benefit obligations. The difference between the interest income on the scheme assets and the actual return on the scheme assets is recognised in other recognised gains and losses.

Actuarial gains and losses are recognised immediately in other recognised gains and losses.

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1. Accounting policies (continued)

1.14 FUND ACCOUNTING

Unrestricted income funds represent those resources which may be used towards meeting any of the charitable objects of the Academy at the discretion of the Trustees.

Restricted fixed asset funds are resources which are to be applied to specific capital purposes imposed by the funders where the asset acquired or created is held for a specific purpose.

Restricted general funds comprise all other restricted funds received with restrictions imposed by the funder/donor and include grants from the Department for Education Group.

Investment income, gains and losses are allocated to the appropriate fund.

Transfers are made between restricted funds and restricted fixed asset funds where restricted funds are used to purchase fixed assets.

1.15 AGENCY ARRANGEMENTS

The Academy acts as an agent in distributing 16-19 bursary funds from ESFA. Payments received from ESFA and subsequent disbursements to students are excluded from the Statement of Financial Activities as the Academy does not have control over the charitable application of the funds. The Academy can use up to 5% of the allocation towards its own administration costs and this is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities. The funds received, paid and any balances held at period end are disclosed in Note 26.

Exeter Mathematics School belongs to the University Maths Schools Network (UMSN), an unincorporated alliance of maths schools in the UK. Funds are currently held and invoices paid on behalf of U-Maths whilst the alliance does not have the facilities to do so itself. The funds received, paid and any balances held at period end are disclosed in Note 26.

**EXETER MATHEMATICS SCHOOL
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2. CRITICAL ACCOUNTING ESTIMATES AND AREAS OF JUDGMENT

Estimates and judgments are continually evaluated and are based on historical experience and other factors, including expectations of future events that are believed to be reasonable under the circumstances.

Critical accounting estimates and assumptions:

The Academy makes estimates and assumptions concerning the future. The resulting accounting estimates and assumptions will, by definition, seldom equal the related actual results. The estimates and assumptions that have a significant risk of causing a material adjustment to the carrying amounts of assets and liabilities within the next financial year are discussed below.

The present value of the Local Government Pension Scheme defined benefit liability depends on a number of factors that are determined on an actuarial basis using a variety of assumptions. The assumptions used in determining the net cost or income for pensions include the discount rate. Any changes in these assumptions, which are disclosed in note 23, will impact the carrying amount of the pension liability. Furthermore a roll forward approach which projects results from the latest full actuarial valuation performed at 31 March 2019 has been used by the actuary in valuing the pensions liability at 31 August 2023. Any differences between the figures derived from the roll forward approach and a full actuarial valuation would impact on the carrying amount of the pension liability.

Critical areas of judgment:

The Academy obtains use of fixed assets as a lessee. The classification of such leases as operating or finance lease requires the Academy to determine, based on an evaluation of the terms and conditions of the arrangements, whether it retains or acquires the significant risks and rewards of ownership of these assets and accordingly whether the lease requires an asset and liability to be recognised in the Balance Sheet.

3. Income from donations and capital grants

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	As restated Total funds 2022 £
Donations	104,877	426	-	105,303	106,462
Capital Grants	-	-	25,247	25,247	12,558
TOTAL 2023	<u>104,877</u>	<u>426</u>	<u>25,247</u>	<u>130,550</u>	<u>119,020</u>
TOTAL 2022 AS RESTATED	<u>105,502</u>	<u>960</u>	<u>12,558</u>	<u>119,020</u>	

**EXETER MATHEMATICS SCHOOL
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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

4. Income from charitable activities

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
Education	193,191	1,324,380	1,517,571	1,373,837
Boarding	-	419,950	419,950	379,175
	<u>193,191</u>	<u>1,744,330</u>	<u>1,937,521</u>	<u>1,753,012</u>
TOTAL 2022	<u>160,291</u>	<u>1,592,721</u>	<u>1,753,012</u>	

5. Funding for the Academy's educational operations

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	As restated Total funds 2022 £
EDUCATION				
DfE/ESFA grants				
General Annual Grant	-	383,816	383,816	383,534
16-19 Funding	-	717,833	717,833	616,268
Schools Supplementary Grant	-	2,782	2,782	-
Teachers' Pay and Pension Grant	-	47,540	47,540	37,627
Other DfE/ESFA grants	-	44,832	44,832	31,912
	<u>-</u>	<u>1,196,803</u>	<u>1,196,803</u>	<u>1,069,341</u>
Other Government grants				
High Needs	-	933	933	-
Educational Grants	-	-	-	3,698
	<u>-</u>	<u>933</u>	<u>933</u>	<u>3,698</u>
Other income from the Academy Trust's educational operations	<u>193,191</u>	<u>126,644</u>	<u>319,835</u>	<u>300,798</u>
TOTAL EDUCATION	<u>193,191</u>	<u>1,324,380</u>	<u>1,517,571</u>	<u>1,373,837</u>
	<u>193,191</u>	<u>1,324,380</u>	<u>1,517,571</u>	<u>1,373,837</u>
TOTAL 2022 AS RESTATED	<u>160,291</u>	<u>1,213,546</u>	<u>1,373,837</u>	

**EXETER MATHEMATICS SCHOOL
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6. Investment income

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
Interest received	6,133	6,133	88

All prior year amounts relate to unrestricted funds.

7. Expenditure

	Staff Costs 2023 £	Premises 2023 £	Other 2023 £	Total 2023 £	Total 2022 £
Education:					
Direct costs	828,121	45,847	143,975	1,017,943	1,100,368
Support costs	283,425	141,247	188,134	612,806	482,070
Boarding:					
Direct costs	107,228	-	-	107,228	75,224
Allocated support costs	-	299,946	26,079	326,025	276,447
TOTAL 2023	1,218,774	487,040	358,188	2,064,002	1,934,109
TOTAL 2022	1,166,609	411,616	355,884	1,934,109	

8. Analysis of expenditure by activities

	Activities undertaken directly 2023 £	Support costs 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
Education	1,017,943	612,806	1,630,749	1,582,438
Boarding	107,228	326,025	433,253	351,671
TOTAL 2023	1,125,171	938,831	2,064,002	1,934,109
TOTAL 2022	1,175,592	758,517	1,934,109	

**EXETER MATHEMATICS SCHOOL
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8. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

Analysis of direct costs

	Education 2023 £	Boarding 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
Pension finance costs	2,000	-	2,000	6,000
Staff costs	827,587	107,228	934,815	946,464
Depreciation	45,847	-	45,847	56,356
Educational supplies	35,017	-	35,017	19,559
Examination fees	27,839	-	27,839	29,567
Staff development	3,756	-	3,756	6,574
Other costs	46,905	-	46,905	65,751
Supply teachers	534	-	534	5,856
Educational consultancy	28,458	-	28,458	39,465
TOTAL 2023	<u>1,017,943</u>	<u>107,228</u>	<u>1,125,171</u>	<u>1,175,592</u>
TOTAL 2022	<u>1,100,368</u>	<u>75,224</u>	<u>1,175,592</u>	

Direct costs are allocated to education and boarding activities on a usage basis.

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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8. Analysis of expenditure by activities (continued)

Analysis of support costs

	Education 2023 £	Boarding 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £	Total funds 2022 £
Staff costs	283,425	-	283,425	214,289
Depreciation	13,971	-	13,971	13,293
Educational supplies	-	19,494	19,494	15,615
Staff development	8,265	-	8,265	4,279
Other costs	95,321	5,406	100,727	76,873
Legal Fees	1,540	-	1,540	-
Recruitment and support	5,379	-	5,379	5,686
Repairs and Maintenance	51,116	1,179	52,295	33,211
Cleaning	23,669	-	23,669	24,669
Rent and rates	20,323	299,946	320,269	262,993
Energy costs	29,258	-	29,258	18,034
Insurance	3,414	-	3,414	3,060
Security and transport	5,470	-	5,470	2,817
Catering	2,696	-	2,696	-
Technology costs	35,297	-	35,297	34,317
Office overheads	15,450	-	15,450	12,307
Professional fees	22,938	-	22,938	21,336
Historic accruals	(24,210)	-	(24,210)	-
Educational consultancy	1,432	-	1,432	931
Auditor's remuneration	18,052	-	18,052	14,807
TOTAL 2023	612,806	326,025	938,831	758,517
TOTAL 2022	482,070	276,447	758,517	

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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9. Net income/(expenditure)

Net income/(expenditure) for the year includes:

	2023 £	2022 £
Operating lease rentals	299,946	258,571
Depreciation of tangible fixed assets	59,818	69,649
Fees paid to auditors for:		
- audit	12,000	9,989
- other services	2,595	4,590
	<u>299,946</u>	<u>258,571</u>

10. Staff

a. Staff costs

Staff costs during the year were as follows:

	2023 £	2022 £
Wages and salaries	927,530	812,518
Social security costs	86,856	72,138
Pension costs	203,854	276,097
	<u>1,218,240</u>	<u>1,160,753</u>
Agency staff costs	534	5,856
	<u>1,218,774</u>	<u>1,166,609</u>

b. Staff numbers

The average number of persons employed by the Academy during the year was as follows:

	2023 No.	2022 No.
Teachers	10	12
Administration and support	15	14
Management	5	4
	<u>30</u>	<u>30</u>

NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

10. Staff (continued)

b. Staff numbers (continued)

The average headcount expressed as full-time equivalents was:

	2023 No.	2022 No.
Teachers	9	10
Administration and support	10	9
Management	5	4
	24	23
	24	23

c. Higher paid staff

The number of employees whose employee benefits (excluding employer pension costs) exceeded £60,000 was:

	2023 No.	2022 No.
In the band £70,001 - £80,000	-	1
In the band £80,001 - £90,000	1	-
	1	1
	1	1

d. Key management personnel

The key management personnel of the Academy comprise the Trustees (who do not receive remuneration for their role as Trustees) and the senior management team as listed on page 1. The total amount of employee benefits (including employer pension contributions and employer national insurance contributions) received by key management personnel for their services to the Academy was £340,416 (2022 - £286,563).

As staff Trustees are not remunerated in respect of their role as Trustees, where staff Trustees do not form part of the key management personnel other than in their role as Trustee, their remuneration as set out in note 12 has not been included in the total benefits received by key management personnel above.

11. Trustees' remuneration and expenses

The Headteacher and other staff Trustees only receive remuneration in respect of services they provide undertaking the roles of Headteacher and staff, and not in respect of their services as Trustees. Other Trustees did not receive any payments from the Academy Trust in respect of their role as Trustees. The value of Trustees' remuneration including pension contributions in respect of defined benefit schemes in the year was as follows; K Burnham: Remuneration £80,000 - £85,000 (2022: £75,000 - £80,000), employer's pension contributions £15,000 - £20,000 (2022: £15,000 - £20,000).

During the year ended 31 August 2023, expenses totalling £1,546 were reimbursed or paid directly to 5 Trustees (2022 - £695 to 4 Trustees).

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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12. Trustees' and Officers' insurance

The Academy has opted into the Department of Education's risk protection arrangement (RPA), an alternative to insurance where UK government funds cover losses that arise. This scheme protects Trustees and officers from claims arising from negligent acts, errors or omissions occurring whilst on academy business, and provides cover up to £10,000,000. It is not possible to quantify the Trustees and officers indemnity element from the overall cost of the RPA scheme membership.

13. Tangible fixed assets

	Long-term leasehold property £	Furniture and equipment £	Computer equipment £	Total £
COST OR VALUATION				
At 1 September 2022	2,134,830	122,966	214,136	2,471,932
Additions	-	-	11,760	11,760
Disposals	-	-	(4,060)	(4,060)
At 31 August 2023	<u>2,134,830</u>	<u>122,966</u>	<u>221,836</u>	<u>2,479,632</u>
DEPRECIATION				
At 1 September 2022	344,256	91,729	198,265	634,250
Charge for the year	36,163	13,853	9,802	59,818
On disposals	-	-	(4,060)	(4,060)
At 31 August 2023	<u>380,419</u>	<u>105,582</u>	<u>204,007</u>	<u>690,008</u>
NET BOOK VALUE				
At 31 August 2023	<u>1,754,411</u>	<u>17,384</u>	<u>17,829</u>	<u>1,789,624</u>
At 31 August 2022	<u>1,790,574</u>	<u>31,237</u>	<u>15,871</u>	<u>1,837,682</u>

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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14. Debtors

	2023	2022
	£	£
DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR		
Trade debtors	-	15,219
Prepayments and accrued income	72,362	67,646
Tax recoverable	14,696	15,409
	<u>87,058</u>	<u>98,274</u>

15. Creditors: Amounts falling due within one year

	2023	2022
	£	£
Trade creditors	19,709	17,807
Other taxation and social security	20,500	12,627
Other creditors	87,256	132,942
Accruals and deferred income	52,489	203,889
	<u>179,954</u>	<u>367,265</u>
	2023	2022
	£	£
Deferred Income		
Deferred income at 1 September 2022	117,718	83,579
Resources deferred during the year	20,689	117,718
Amounts released from previous periods	(117,718)	(83,579)
	<u>20,689</u>	<u>117,718</u>

At the balance sheet date, Exeter Mathematics School was holding funds received in advance for boarding, travel and outreach relating to the 2023/24 year.

EXETER MATHEMATICS SCHOOL
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NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023

16. Statement of funds

	Balance at 1 September 2022 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2023 £
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS					
General Funds	152,902	304,201	(118,584)	-	338,519
RESTRICTED GENERAL FUNDS					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	464,940	383,816	(500,357)	-	348,399
16-19 Funding	-	717,833	(717,833)	-	-
Restricted donations	-	426	(426)	-	-
Provision of Boarding	(381)	419,950	(433,253)	-	(13,684)
Other DfE/ESFA grants	-	95,154	(95,154)	-	-
Educational grants	-	127,577	(127,577)	-	-
Pension reserve	(64,000)	-	(11,000)	71,000	(4,000)
	<u>400,559</u>	<u>1,744,756</u>	<u>(1,885,600)</u>	<u>71,000</u>	<u>330,715</u>
RESTRICTED FIXED ASSET FUNDS					
Refurbishment Grant	1,410,838	-	(32,495)	-	1,378,343
Transferred on Conversion	327,600	-	(7,800)	-	319,800
Purchased from GAG	54,558	-	(13,248)	-	41,310
DfE/ESFA capital grants	55,231	25,247	(6,275)	-	74,203
	<u>1,848,227</u>	<u>25,247</u>	<u>(59,818)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,813,656</u>
TOTAL RESTRICTED FUNDS	<u>2,248,786</u>	<u>1,770,003</u>	<u>(1,945,418)</u>	<u>71,000</u>	<u>2,144,371</u>
TOTAL FUNDS	<u>2,401,688</u>	<u>2,074,204</u>	<u>(2,064,002)</u>	<u>71,000</u>	<u>2,482,890</u>

The specific purposes for which the funds are to be applied are as follows:

Restricted Funds

General Annual Grant - Income from the ESFA which is to be used for the normal running costs of the Academy, including education and support costs.

16-19 Funding - This represents income from the ESFA in relation to the provision of 16-19 education which is to be used for the normal running costs of the Academy, including education and support costs.

Restricted donations - this represents donations provided to be used for specific purposes.

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16. Statement of funds (continued)

Provision of boarding – This represents amounts paid by parents to enable a child to board at the Academy. The fund is still in deficit at the year end, however the Academy is working hard to generate funds to reduce this.

Other DfE/ESFA grants - This represents grant income received from the DfE and ESFA for specific educational purposes. This also includes rates funding.

Educational grants - This represents grants provided by non-government institutions for specific educational purposes.

Pension reserve – This represents the Academy's share of the assets and liabilities in the Local Government Pension Scheme. As with most pension schemes this is currently in deficit due to an excess of scheme liabilities over scheme assets which was inherited on conversion to an Academy. The Academy is following the recommendations of the actuary to reduce the deficit by making additional contributions over a number of years.

Restricted Fixed Asset Funds

Refurbishment grant - This represents funding from the ESFA to cover refurbishment of the main building.

Transferred on conversion – This represent the buildings and equipment donated to the School from the Local Authority on conversion to an Academy.

Purchased from GAG - This represents funds transferred from GAG fund to purchase fixed assets.

DfE/ESFA Capital grants – These funds are received for direct expenditure on fixed asset projects. The fixed asset fund balance at the year end represents the NBV of assets and any unspent grant amounts.

Transfers are made between GAG and restricted fixed asset funds where GAG funds are used to purchase fixed assets. In addition, a transfer has been made between restricted general funds and unrestricted funds to reduce the boarding provision deficit, as mentioned above.

OTHER INFORMATION

Under the funding agreement with the Secretary of State, the Academy was not subject to a limit on the amount of GAG it could carry forward at 31 August 2023.

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**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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16. Statement of funds (continued)

Comparative information in respect of the preceding year is as follows:

	Balance at 1 September 2021 £	Income £	Expenditure £	Gains/ (Losses) £	Balance at 31 August 2022 £
UNRESTRICTED FUNDS					
General Funds	19,040	265,881	(132,019)	-	152,902
RESTRICTED GENERAL FUNDS					
General Annual Grant (GAG)	502,397	386,248	(423,705)	-	464,940
16-19 Funding	-	616,268	(616,268)	-	-
Restricted donations	21,807	-	(21,807)	-	-
Provision of Boarding	(27,885)	379,175	(351,671)	-	(381)
Other DfE/ESFA grants	-	66,825	(66,825)	-	-
Educational grants	-	145,165	(145,165)	-	-
Pension reserve	(407,000)	-	(107,000)	450,000	(64,000)
	89,319	1,593,681	(1,732,441)	450,000	400,559
RESTRICTED FIXED ASSET FUNDS					
Refurbishment Grant	1,443,333	-	(32,495)	-	1,410,838
Transferred on Conversion	335,400	-	(7,800)	-	327,600
Purchased from GAG	78,093	-	(23,535)	-	54,558
Purchased from other grants	3,462	-	(3,462)	-	-
DfE/ESFA capital grants	45,030	12,558	(2,357)	-	55,231
	1,905,318	12,558	(69,649)	-	1,848,227
TOTAL RESTRICTED FUNDS	1,994,637	1,606,239	(1,802,090)	450,000	2,248,786
TOTAL FUNDS	2,013,677	1,872,120	(1,934,109)	450,000	2,401,688

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17. Analysis of net assets between funds

Analysis of net assets between funds - current year

	Unrestricted funds 2023 £	Restricted funds 2023 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2023 £	Total funds 2023 £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	1,789,624	1,789,624
Current assets	338,519	514,669	24,032	877,220
Creditors due within one year	-	(179,954)	-	(179,954)
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	-	(4,000)	-	(4,000)
TOTAL	<u>338,519</u>	<u>330,715</u>	<u>1,813,656</u>	<u>2,482,890</u>

Analysis of net assets between funds - prior year

	Unrestricted funds 2022 £	Restricted funds 2022 £	Restricted fixed asset funds 2022 £	Total funds 2022 £
Tangible fixed assets	-	-	1,837,682	1,837,682
Current assets	152,902	831,824	10,545	995,271
Creditors due within one year	-	(367,265)	-	(367,265)
Defined benefit pension scheme liability	-	(64,000)	-	(64,000)
TOTAL	<u>152,902</u>	<u>400,559</u>	<u>1,848,227</u>	<u>2,401,688</u>

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18. Reconciliation of net income/(expenditure) to net cash flow from operating activities

	2023 £	2022 £
Net income/(expenditure) for the year (as per Statement of Financial Activities)	10,202	(61,989)
ADJUSTMENTS FOR:		
Depreciation	59,818	69,649
Capital grants from DfE and other capital income	(25,247)	(12,558)
Interest receivable	(6,133)	88
Defined benefit pension scheme cost less contributions payable	9,000	101,000
Defined benefit pension scheme finance cost	2,000	6,000
(Increase)/Decrease in debtors	11,216	36,032
Increase/(Decrease) in creditors	(187,311)	177,193
NET CASH (USED IN)/PROVIDED BY OPERATING ACTIVITIES	(126,455)	315,415

19. Cash flows from investing activities

	2023 £	2022 £
Interest receivable	6,133	(88)
Purchase of tangible fixed assets	(11,760)	(2,012)
Capital grants from DfE Group	25,247	12,558
NET CASH PROVIDED BY INVESTING ACTIVITIES	19,620	10,458

20. Analysis of cash and cash equivalents

	2023 £	2022 £
Cash in hand and at bank	790,162	896,997
TOTAL CASH AND CASH EQUIVALENTS	790,162	896,997

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21. Analysis of changes in net debt

	At 1 September 2022 £	Cash flows £	At 31 August 2023 £
Cash at bank and in hand	896,997	(106,835)	790,162
	<u>896,997</u>	<u>(106,835)</u>	<u>790,162</u>

22. Capital commitments

	2023 £	2022 £
CONTRACTED FOR BUT NOT PROVIDED IN THESE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS		
Acquisition of tangible fixed assets	<u>18,742</u>	<u>-</u>

23. Pension commitments

The Academy's employees belong to two principal pension schemes: the Teachers' Pension Scheme England and Wales (TPS) for academic and related staff; and the Local Government Pension Scheme (LGPS) for non-teaching staff, which is managed by Devon County Council. Both are multi-employer defined benefit schemes.

The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS related to the period ended 31 March 2020 and of the LGPS 31 March 2019.

Contributions amounting to £22,375 were payable to the schemes at 31 August 2023 (2022 - £19,988) and are included within creditors.

Teachers' Pension Scheme

The Teachers' Pension Scheme (TPS) is a statutory, contributory, defined benefit scheme, governed by the Teachers' Pension Scheme Regulations 2014. Membership is automatic for full-time teachers in academies. All teachers have the option to opt-out of the TPS following enrolment.

The TPS is an unfunded scheme to which both the member and employer makes contributions, as a percentage of salary - these contributions are credited to the Exchequer. Retirement and other pension benefits are paid by public funds provided by Parliament.

**NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
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23. Pension commitments (continued)

Valuation of the Teachers' Pension Scheme

The Government Actuary, using normal actuarial principles, conducts a formal actuarial review of the TPS in accordance with the Public Service Pensions (Valuations and Employer Cost Cap) Directions 2014 published by HM Treasury every 4 years. The aim of the review is to specify the level of future contributions. Actuarial scheme valuations are dependent on assumptions about the value of future costs, design of benefits and many other factors. The latest actuarial valuation of the TPS was carried out as at 31 March 2020. The valuation report was published by the Department for Education on 26 October 2023. The key elements of the previous valuation as at 31 March 2016 which was effective for the year ended 31 August 2023 are:

- employer contribution rates set at 28.6% of pensionable pay (including a 0.08% administration levy)
- total scheme liabilities (pensions currently in payment and the estimated cost of future benefits) for service to the effective date of £262,000 million and notional assets (estimated future contributions together with the notional investments held at the valuation date) of £222,200 million, giving a notional past service deficit of £39,800 million
- the SCAPE rate, set by HMT, is used to determine the notional investment return. The current SCAPE rate is 1.7% above the rate of CPI, assumed real rate of return is 2.4% in excess of prices and 2% in excess of earnings. The rate of real earnings growth is assumed to be 2.2%. The assumed nominal rate of return including earnings growth is 4.45%.

The 2020 valuation result is due to be implemented from 1 April 2024 and effective until 31 March 2027. The employer contribution rate for this period will be 28.68% of pensionable pay (including a 0.08% administration levy).

The employer's pension costs paid to TPS in the year amounted to £127,575 (2022 - £128,123).

A copy of the valuation report and supporting documentation is on the Teachers' Pensions website (<https://www.teacherspensions.co.uk/news/employers/2019/04/teachers-pensions-valuation-report.aspx>) for 2016 and www.teacherspensions.co.uk/news/employers/2023/10/valuation-result.aspx for 2020.

Under the definitions set out in FRS 102, the TPS is an unfunded multi-employer pension scheme. The Academy has accounted for its contributions to the scheme as if it were a defined contribution scheme. The Academy has set out above the information available on the scheme.

Local Government Pension Scheme

The LGPS is a funded defined benefit pension scheme, with the assets held in separate trustee-administered funds. The total contribution made for the year ended 31 August 2023 was £86,000 (2022 - £61,000), of which employer's contributions totalled £67,000 (2022 - £47,000) and employees' contributions totalled £ 19,000 (2022 - £14,000). The agreed contribution rates for future years are 17.6% plus £4k per annum for employers and 5.5 - 12.5% per cent for employees.

As described in note the LGPS obligation relates to the employees of the Academy, who were the employees transferred as part of the conversion from the maintained school and new employees who were eligible to, and did, join the Scheme in the year. The obligation in respect of employees who transferred on conversion represents their cumulative service at both the predecessor school and the Academy at the balance sheet date.

Parliament has agreed, at the request of the Secretary of State for Education, to a guarantee that, in the event of academy closure, outstanding Local Government Pension Scheme liabilities would be met by the Department for Education. The guarantee came into force on 18 July 2013.

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23. Pension commitments (continued)

Principal actuarial assumptions

	2023	2022
	%	%
Rate of increase in salaries	3.90	3.90
Rate of increase for pensions in payment/inflation	2.90	2.9
Discount rate for scheme liabilities	5.25	4.20
Inflation assumption (CPI)	2.90	2.9

The current mortality assumptions include sufficient allowance for future improvements in mortality rates. The assumed life expectations on retirement age 65 are:

	2023	2022
	Years	Years
Retiring today		
Males	21.4	21.7
Females	22.6	22.9
Retiring in 20 years		
Males	22.7	23.0
Females	24.0	24.3

Sensitivity analysis

	2023	2022
	£000	£000
Discount rate +0.1%	(10)	(12)
Discount rate -0.1%	10	13
Mortality assumption - 1 year increase	9	10
Mortality assumption - 1 year decrease	(9)	(20)
CPI rate +0.1%	10	13
CPI rate -0.1%	(10)	(12)

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23. Pension commitments (continued)

Share of scheme assets

The Academy's share of the assets in the scheme was:

	At 31 August 2023	At 31 August 2022
	£	£
Equities	202,000	157,000
Corporate bonds	83,000	59,000
Property	32,000	30,000
Cash and other liquid assets	5,000	4,000
Target return portfolio	23,000	25,000
Infrastructure and alternative assets	35,000	22,000
TOTAL MARKET VALUE OF ASSETS	380,000	297,000

The actual return on scheme assets was £10,000 (2022 - £-10,000).

The amounts recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities are as follows:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Current service cost	(76,000)	(148,000)
Interest cost	16,000	11,000
TOTAL AMOUNT RECOGNISED IN THE STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITIES	(60,000)	(137,000)

Changes in the present value of the defined benefit obligations were as follows:

	2023	2022
	£	£
At 1 September	360,000	636,000
Current service cost	76,000	148,000
Interest cost	16,000	11,000
Employee contributions	19,000	14,000
Actuarial gains	(86,000)	(465,000)
Benefits paid	(1,000)	16,000
AT 31 AUGUST	384,000	360,000

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23. Pension commitments (continued)

Changes in the fair value of the Academy's share of scheme assets were as follows:

	2023	2022
	£	£
At 1 September	296,000	229,000
Interest income	14,000	5,000
Actuarial losses	(15,000)	(15,000)
Employer contributions	67,000	47,000
Employee contributions	19,000	14,000
Benefits paid	(1,000)	16,000
AT 31 AUGUST	380,000	296,000

24. Operating lease commitments

At 31 August 2023 the Academy had commitments to make future minimum lease payments under non-cancellable operating leases as follows:

	2023	2022
	£	£
Not later than 1 year	227,654	300,174
Later than 1 year and not later than 5 years	-	227,654
	227,654	527,828

25. Members' liability

Each member of the charitable company undertakes to contribute to the assets of the company in the event of it being wound up while he/she is a member, or within one year after he/she ceases to be a member, such amount as may be required, not exceeding £10 for the debts and liabilities contracted before he/she ceases to be a member.

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26. Related party transactions

Owing to the nature of the Academy and the composition of the Board of Trustees being drawn from local public and private sector organisations, transactions may take place with organisations in which the trustees have an interest. All transactions involving such organisations are conducted in accordance with the requirements of the Academy Trust Handbook, including notifying the ESFA of all transactions made on or after 1 April 2019 and obtaining their approval where required, and with the Academy's financial regulations and normal procurement procedures relating to connected and related party transactions.

The following related party transactions took place in the year:

Exeter College and The University of Exeter are both sponsors and members of Exeter Mathematics School.

During the year, The University of Exeter charged Exeter Mathematics School £148 (2022: £720) for booking the University sports hall and for website design. As at 31 August 2023, £Nil (2022: £Nil) was owed to The University of Exeter.

During the year, transactions with Exeter College amounted to £34,944 (2022: £32,983) for shared services covering cost of teaching on Exeter College courses attended by Exeter Mathematics School students, IT services and HR services including recruitment. Further transactions amounting to £3,549 (2022: £2,430) were incurred with Exeter College comprising £639 for a student's yearly bus pass, £398 for venue hire, and £2,512 for maintenance of Exeter Mathematics School's uninterruptable power supply. Overall charge in 2021/22 for services/goods provided by Exeter College was £38,493 (2022: £35,413). All services provided by Exeter College are at cost. As at 31 August 2023, £Nil (2022: £Nil) was owed to Exeter College.

No other related party transactions took place during the period other than those described in note 11.

27. Agency arrangements

The academy distributes 16-19 bursary funds to students as an agent for the ESFA. In the accounting period ended 31 August 2023 the Academy had brought forward funds of £3,183 (2022: £6,719), received £16,475 (2022: £15,777) and disbursed £17,718 (2022: £19,313), leaving a year end creditor balance of £1,940 (2022: £3,183).

Exeter Mathematics School belongs to the University Maths Schools Network (UMSN), an unincorporated alliance of maths schools in the UK. Funds are currently held and invoices paid on behalf of U-Maths whilst the alliance does not have the facilities to do so itself. During the year, UMaths paid Exeter Mathematics School £10,000 (2022: £Nil) in administration fees for the maintenance of these services. As at 31 August 2023 £59,227 (2022: £107,677) was owed to U-Maths and this total is included within other creditors.

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FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2023**

28. Boarding school trading account

	2023 £	2023 £	2022 £	2022 £
INCOME				
Boarding income	419,950		379,175	
TOTAL INCOME		419,950		379,175
Wages and salaries	82,777		58,392	
National insurance	7,116		4,978	
Pension costs	17,335		11,854	
DIRECT COSTS	107,228		75,224	
Maintenance of premises and equipment	1,179		2,837	
Rent and rates	299,946		257,995	
Catering	19,494		15,615	
Other direct costs	5,406		-	
SUPPORT COSTS	326,025		276,447	
TOTAL EXPENDITURE		433,253		351,671
(Deficit)/surplus from all sources		(13,303)		27,504
Boarding school balances at 1 September 2022		(381)		(27,885)
BOARDING SCHOOL BALANCES AT 31 AUGUST 2023		(13,684)		(381)